

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02  
SS-15 IO-13 SSM-03 ACDA-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00 EB-07  
/093 W

-----232338Z 008325 /15

R 231546Z MAY 77  
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5335  
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM  
USIA WASHDC  
NSC WHITE HOUSE

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USIA FOR IOP/M

E.O. 11652: NA  
TAGS: PFOR EG XF US  
SUBJ: MORE REACTION TO LIKUD VICTORY

REF: CAIRO 8580

1. GOE RESPONSE TO ISRAELI ELECTIONS CONTINUES TO COMBINE  
OSTENSIBLE NONCHALANCE OVER LIKUD VICTORY WITH EFFORT TO FIX  
RESPONSIBILITY FOR PEACE PROGRESS MORE FIRMLY THAN EVER ON US  
AND REMINDERS THAT ARABS HAVE MILITARY/ECONOMIC OPTIONS AVAILABLE  
IN EVENT PEACE OFFENSIVE FAILS. FOLLOWING MEETING WITH FRG  
OPPOSITION LEADER STRAUSS MAY 22, SADAT AGAIN TOLD PRESS THAT  
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ISRAELI ELECTION RESULTS REPRESENT NOTHING NEW BECAUSE THERE  
NO ESSENTIAL DIFFERENCE BETWEEN BEGIN, RABIN, PERES AND GOLDA MEIR.  
SADAT WENT ON TO REPEAT THAT US MUST "SHOULDER ITS RESPONSIBILITIES"  
IN BRINGING ABOUT SETTLEMENT.

2. SPEAKING ELSEWHERE, FONMIN FAHMY ALSO DISMISSED LIKELIHOOD THAT  
ISRAELI ELECTIONS COULD HAVE SERIOUS IMPACT ON CHANCES FOR

SETTLEMENT. WORLD WOULD NOT COLLAPSE JUST BECAUSE "TERRORIST BECAME PRIME MINISTER. FAHMY REMARKED, HOWEVER, THAT ARAB USE OF "OIL WEAPON" WOULD BE A CERTAINTY IF ISRAELIS PERSISTED IN OCCUPATION OF ARAB TERRITORIES. "US AND OTHERS" SHOULD REMEMBER THAT DETERRENT VALUE OF OIL EMBARGO EQUAL TO THAT OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

3. PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY SPEAKER MAR'I MEANWHILE TOLD STUDENT AUDIENCE THAT SUCCESS OF LIKUD "LED BY NOTORIOUS TERRORIST MENAHEM BEGIN, ARCHITECT OF DEIR YASSIN MASSACRE", CONCERNS ISRAEL ALONE. ARABS ARE UNITED IN WILL AND HAD PREVIOUSLY ANSWERED ISRAELI THREATS WITH OCTOBER WAR VICTORY.

4. PRESS FOUND COMFORT AND SUPPORT FOR THESE VIEWS IN PRESIDENT CARTER STATEMENTS, BANNERED BY AKHBAR AND TIED TO ISRAELI ELECTION, THAT "FAILURE TO ACHIEVE PEACE IN MIDDLE EAST WOULD BE CATASTROPHE FOR WHOLE WORLD" AND THAT "US POLICY NOT INFLUENCED BY CHANGES OF LEADERSHIP IN ANY MIDDLE EAST NATION, NOR BY OUR FRIENDSHIP WITH ISRAEL."

5. EDITORIAL COMMENTARY WAS IN SAME VEIN, AKHBAR WARNING ISRAEL THAT BEGIN AND OTHERS MUST LEARN LESSONS OF OCTOBER WAR BEFORE ENGAGING IN FURTHER PROVOCATIONS. AHRAH AND GUMHURRIYA BOTH REMINDED US AND USSR THAT MIDDLE EAST SITUATION WILL NOT WITHSTAND FURTHER (ISRAELI) PROCRASTINATION.

6. COMMENT: ORCHESTRATED HIGH LEVEL REACTION TO ISRAELI ELECTION IS BEING ECHOED TO US BY CONTACTS AT ALL LEVELS. CONVICTION THAT ONLY US CAN PULL SETTLEMENT CHESTNUTS OUT OF ISRAELI FIRE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ALWAYS WIDELY HELD AND SEEMS TO HAVE DEEPENED. THIS PROFESSED VIEW, HOWEVER, SHOULD ALSO BE SEEN AS AT LEAST PARTLY A TACTICAL PLOY TO CONVINCE US THAT WE DO INDEED HOLD 99 PERCENT OF THE CARDS AND MUST KEEP ISRAELI FEET CLOSE TO THE FIRE.

7. MEANWHILE, DESPITE ABOVE REFERENCES TO BEGIN AS TERRORIST, BY FAHMY (ALWAYS IRASCIBLE) AND MAR'I (SPEAKING TO SENSITIVE AUDIENCE) MEDIA HAS BECOME MARKEDLY LESS SHRILL. EILTS

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ELECTION RESULTS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS, PEACE PLANS  
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**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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